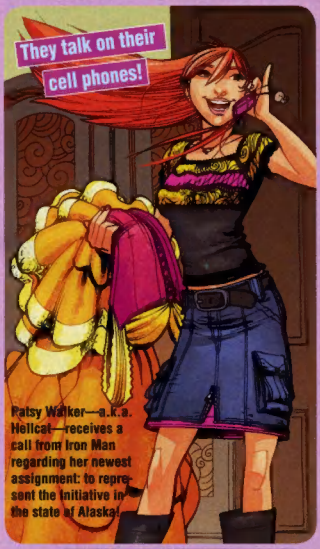
SUPER HERO CELEBRITIES: THEY'RE JUST LIKE US!

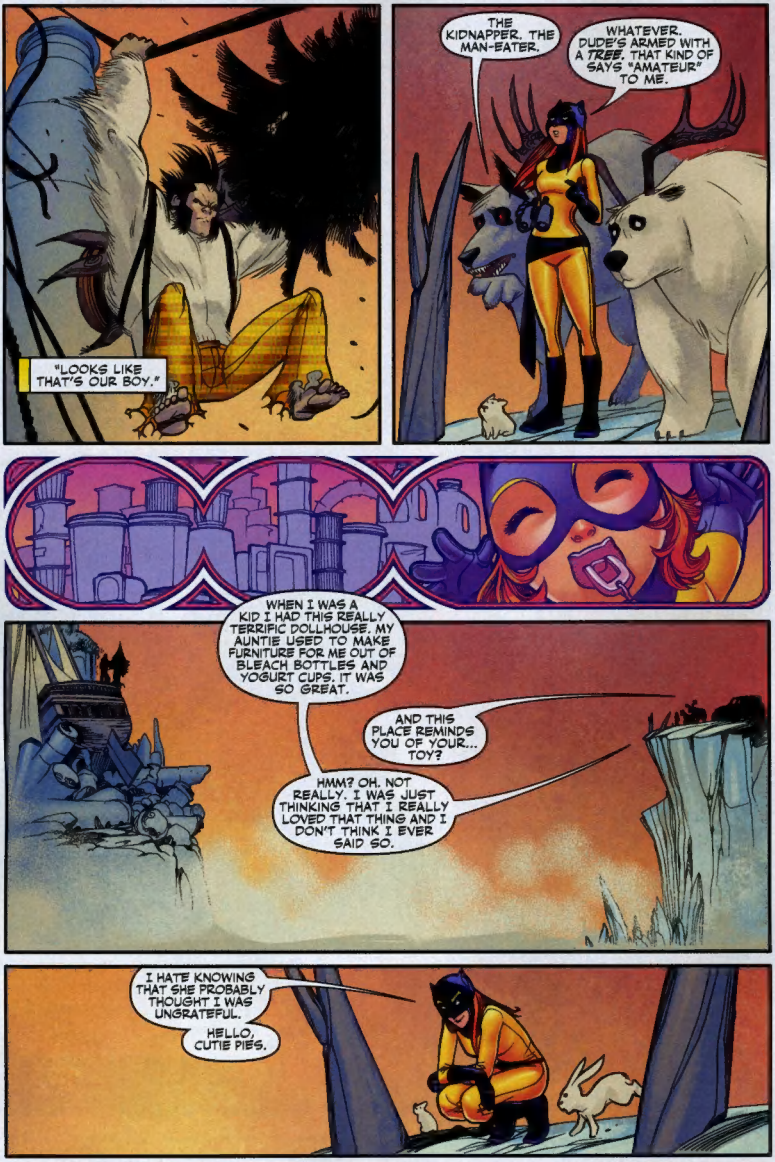

They talk on their cell phones!
Patsy Walker—a.k.a. Hellcat—receives a call from Iron Man regarding her newest assignment: to represent the Initiative in the state of Alaska!

Hellcat agrees to help seven witches locate their missing daughter and return her to them.
They do good deeds for strangers!

They go on road trips with their friends!

They visit creepy arctic shipwrecks lorded over by ivory-coated cannibals!
And judging by the look on that yeti's face (inset), we'd say Hellcat might be in over her head! (Story continued on page 2.)

PATSY WALKER: HELLCAT No. 4, January, 2009. Published Monthly by MARVEL PUBLISHING, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10016. © 2008 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. $2.99 per copy in the U.S. (GST #R127032852) in the direct market, Canadian Agreement #40686537. Printed in Canada. ALAN FINE, CEO Marvel Toys & Publishing Divisions and CMO Marvel Characters, Inc.; JIM SOKOLOWSKI, Chief Operating Officer; DAVID GABRIEL, SVP of Publishing Sales & Circulation; DAVID BOGART, SVP of Business Affairs & Talent Management; MICHAEL PASCIULLO, VP Merchandising & Communications; JIM O'KEEFE, VP of Operations & Logistics; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JUSTIN F. GABRIEL, Director of Publishing & Editorial Operations; SUSAN CRESPI, Editorial Operations Manager; ALEX MORALES, Publishing Operations Manager. STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Mitch Dane, Advertising Director, at mdane@marvel.com. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-217-9158.


"LOOKS LIKE THAT'S OUR BOY."
THE KIDNAPPER. THE MAN-EATER.
WHATEVER. DUDE'S ARMED WITH A TREE. THAT KIND OF SAYS "AMATEUR" TO ME.
WHEN I WAS A KID I HAD THIS REALLY TERRIFIC DOLLHOUSE. MY AUNTIE USED TO MAKE FURNITURE FOR ME OUT OF BLEACH BOTTLES AND YOGURT CUPS. IT WAS SO GREAT.
AND THIS PLACE REMINDS YOU OF YOUR... TOY?
HMM? OH. NOT REALLY. I WAS JUST THINKING THAT I REALLY LOVED THAT THING AND I DON'T THINK I EVER SAID SO.
I HATE KNOWING THAT SHE PROBABLY THOUGHT I WAS UNGRATEFUL.
HELLO, CUTIE PIES.

WOW. RABBITS!
THE WAY I SEE IT, WE'VE GOT TO GET OVER THERE, GET THAT YETI'S CHRISTMAS TWIGS ON AN ANVIL, GET THE GIRL AND GET OUT AND NOT GET EATEN.
WOULD YOU LIKE US TO SEND A MESSAGE TO THE OTHER PARTY?
WHAT OTHER PARTY?! THE ONLY PARTY I'M INTERESTED IN HAS "WELCOME HOME, WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE NOT DEAD" BANNERS AND PUNCH!
AND I'M GONNA PUNCH YOU IN A MINUTE IF YOU DON'T START BEING MORE HELPFUL!
WHERE'S THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS WHEN YOU NEED THEM? WHAT WE NEED IS A BRIDGE. OKIE DOKE. ESSAYONS! LET US TRY!
WOW... THAT'S A LOT OF RABBITS. I'VE GOT AN IDEA.

ROUND 'EM UP, BOYS! I'VE GOT A GOOD FEELING WE'LL BE HOME BY NIGHTFALL! AND THEN IT'LL BE BEANS ON TOAST AND HAPPY COWBOY SONGS PLAYED ON TINY GUITARS FOR EVERYONE!
KAPOW!
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David Lafuente
Artist
John Rauch
Color Artist
Dave & Natalie Lanphear
Letterers
Stuart Immonen
Cover Artist
Daniel Hetchum
Assistant Editor
Nick Lowe
Editor
Joe Quesada
Editor in Chief
Dan Buckley
Publisher
HELLCAT
SNOWBALL EFFECT
PART 3

INCOMING SPRUCE!
SSWEEEZZZ
I SMELL BURNING HARE! GET YOUR FUZZY HEADS DOWN BACK THERE! THE YETI'S GOT ROCKETS!
SPINNING!
I COULD USE SOME ACTIVE PROTECTION UP HERE, YOU COWARDS.
WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
MMMF.
FZZ
SPLASH

THERE IS A TIDE IN THE AFFAIRS OF MEN, WHICH, TAKEN AT THE FLOOD, LEADS ON TO FORTUNE...
BOOMMP
OMITTED, ALL THE SOMETHING SOMETHING IS, UH, TIED IN SHALLOWS AND MISERY.
JEEPERS, THEY DON'T BUILD THEM LIKE THIS ANYMORE.
OR, I GUESS THEY KINDA DO. ON SUCH A FULL SEA ARE WE NOW AFLOAT AND WE MUST TAKE THE CURRENT WHEN IT SERVES...
OR LOSE OUR VENTURES.
THE CANNIBAL'S GOT FLAIR. I'LL GIVE HIM THAT, ALL RIGHT.
WILL YOU GUYS *PLEASE* BE USEFUL AND OFFLOAD SOME OF THE CACK IN THE TRUNK. WE'RE RIDING LOW.
WE WILL AID IN THE FIGHT.
WE'LL DO THIS MY WAY AND MAYBE THERE WON'T *BE* A FIGHT.

OH, WHO AM I KIDDING.
ONLY AN EVIL COWARD PREYS ON CHILDREN AND THERE'S NOTHING I'D LIKE BETTER THAN TO INJURE YOU SIX WAYS FROM SUNDAY.
SO, TELL YOU WHAT. GIVE UP THE GIRL AND MAYBE I'LL JUST KICK YOU INTO NEXT BREAKFAST.
I CAN'T HEAR YOU.
SO MY WAY IT IS, THEN. SUPER!

TIME TO KNOCK OFF THE HOARFROST!
YOU...
CAN'T...
WHUNK
DID THAT HURT? DO YOU WANT ME TO WAIT HERE WHILE YOU GO FREE THE HEIR TO THE SHAMANIC THRONE?
OR I CAN COME WITH YOU! EITHER WAY! BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW...
...HAVE HER.
I'M IMPATIENT.
GUAAAH
NUTS!
GUAAAH

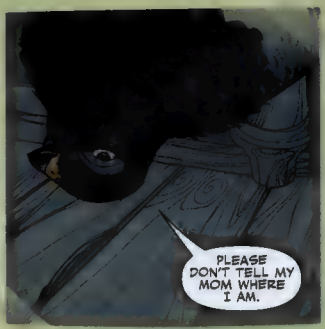
YOU FIRST, BIG BOY!
SKRASSH
WHUH?
AND STAY DOWN!
SOME OF US ARE TRYING TO SLEEP!
HI! I'M HERE TO RESCUE YOU!
GET OFF MY BOYFRIEND. NOW.

I--
YOU--
OH, YOU HAVE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME.
NO, I'M NOT KIDDING. WHAT ARE YOU, SOME KIND OF RACIST?
WHAT? NO! AND I THINK, TECHNICALLY THAT WOULD BE SPECIES-IST.
WHATEVS. MY MOTHERS SENT YOU, DIDN'T THEY? I AM SO SICK OF THEIR MEDDLING. THEY NEVER LET ME DO ANYTHING! I SHOULD JUST KILL MYSELF...LIKE THAT WOULD BE THE END OF IT! GAWD!
NOT DONE WITH YOU, BUBBA.

I BET THEY GAVE YOU SOME COCKEYED STORY ABOUT HIDING MY SOUL TO MAKE ME INVULNERABLE. AND YOU BOUGHT IT! WHAT A JOKE!
THEY'RE *WITCHES!* WHY *SHOULDN'T* I HAVE BOUGHT IT?
BE--CAUSE DO YOU KNOW WHERE THEY PUT MY SOUL? IN A POT OF CREAMED FAT! LIKE I'M NOT GOING TO FIND *THAT!* THEY COULDN'T HIDE A FART IN A SNOW BANK!
OKAY, OKAY!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, ANYWAY...AND I MEAN YOUR REAL NAME. NOT WHATEVER NOVEL MY MOTHERS WROTE FOR YOU.
HELLCAT. PATSY WALKER, HELLCAT.
THAT'S...NICE, ACTUALLY.
YOU'RE LUCKY.
GET BACK HERE!
THERE'S NO TALKING TO HER. EVER.
GOOD. BECAUSE I'VE HAD JUST ABOUT ENOUGH TALKING. DO *YOU* HAVE A NAME?
IT'S PETE.

SO WHY AM I HERE IF YOU HAVEN'T BEEN KIDNAPPED?
KIDNAPPED... AS IF.
I HAVEN'T CALLED HOME IN TWO MONTHS. WHICH IS NOTHING, I MIGHT ADD.
COME ON. THEY SENT YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT A MILLION YEARS OLD. YOU KNOW, SO WE CAN, LIKE, RELATE. SEE HOW WELL IT'S WORKING?
YOU'RE NOT SPECIAL, YOU KNOW. WELL, BESIDES BEING THE HEIR TO A SHAMANIC KINGDOM. BUT SERIOUSLY, HAVE YOU EVEN TRIED TALKING TO THEM?
YOU HAVE MET MY SKULL-TOTING, BELL-RINGING WEIRDO RELATIVES, RIGHT? I BET KEEFS GOT OUT THE DRUM AND EVERYTHING.
LOOK. MAYBE THIS WILL HELP. FACE-TO-FACE. CHICK-TO-CHICK.
I'M SO IMPRESSED. "I'M LIKE THE NEW PARADIGM FOR THE FUTURE AND YOU'VE GOT SHINY RED HAIR. YOU'RE RIGHT! WE HAVE SO MUCH IN COMMON!"
I'M TRYING TO BE YOUR FRIEND.
THANKS, MA'AM. BUT I'VE ALREADY GOT FRIENDS.

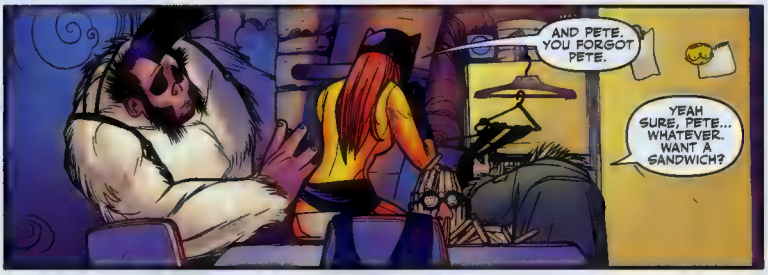
Emma Atluk Skin. Tenth generation story-teller. Hates reading, talking, talking, talking and caribou blood. Wants to be a sculptor. Worships Camille Claudel. Especially the crazy parts.



Willow Ptarmigan. Her dad was a Rock Ptarmigan, actually made of rock. He was killed by some lucky jerk with a spear. So she knows it's only ever a matter of time.

Marco Fontana-Giusti. He'll tell you this is his grampa's ship but it's really his. He's undead with a bullet and a rotten sense of direction. He's been avoiding the tax man for half a century.

Wandering Bob.



GEE WHIZ. RELAX!
TUNNK
LISTEN, SEVEN WOMEN WENT TO A LOT OF TROUBLE... I WENT TO A LOT OF TROUBLE TO BRING YOU HOME.
munch munch munch
YOU GRABBED THE RAVEN, DIDN'T YOU.
NO... MAYBE.
YES YOU DID. KEES HIT HER STUPID DRUM AND YOU GRABBED THE RAVEN. THEY ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A SIGN. I HATE THAT. IT DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING, YOU KNOW.
WHEN I WAS BORN THEY MADE ME A COAT FROM THE SKIN OF A RAVEN. AND NOW ANY BLACK SPECK IN THE SKY IS A PORTENT!
I CAN'T EVEN [redacted] BLACK OR IT'S ALL WHERE ARE YOU GOING, WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, WHAT'S THE SACRIFICE FOR!
GET OVER IT.
I DIDN'T ASK FOR ANY OF THIS!
I BET SHE NEVER ASKED TO [redacted] BORN, EITHER.
SOMETIMES.
STUPID. COME ON.

STUPID, STUPID, STUPID.
SHE'S NICE ONCE YOU GET TO KNOW HER.
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT HER. I CAN'T BELIEVE I LET IT GET THIS FAR.
IT'S BACK.
LEAVING SO SOON? I CAN'T SAY I MIND!
DRIVE CAREFULLY, THAT THING DOESN'T LOOK TOO SAFE!
DON'T COME BACK! SEE YOU NEVER!
I CAME HERE TO DO A JOB AND YOU'RE IT, SWEETHEART. NOW, GET IN THE CAR AND NO ONE GETS HURT. EXCEPT YOUR BOYFRIEND AND I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THAT.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHO YOU'RE DEALING WITH.
NO? I THINK IMMATURE-TRUST-FUND-WANNABE-ART-SCHOOL-SLACKER SOUNDS JUST ABOUT RIGHT.

WHO TOLD YOU THAT?!
TOLD ME WHAT?
SO I WANT TO GO TO ART SCHOOL! SO I WANT TO DO DURATIONAL PERFORMANCE PIECES! SO WHAT!
JUST GET IN THE CAR, WOULD YOU?
I AM NOT, REPEAT NOT, GOING ANYWHERE WITH YOU OR MY FATHER.
YOUR FATHER?!
WHICH ONE OF THESE TWO FURRY...
HI, KID.
...
WELL, THAT'S JUST TYPICAL.

OKAY, SO IT'S NOT ALL BANJOS AND GEE WHIZ, PETE, HELP ME OUT HERE.
WHAT'S A BANJO?
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IT? YOU'RE A PRETTY PRINCESS WITH A PRETTY PRINCESS NAME. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY CALLED ME? DO YOU?
SSANGYONG REXTON.
WELL, THAT'S KIND OF PRETTY--
NONONONONO
THAT'S THE NAME OF A CAR!
THEY NAMED ME AFTER A CAR!
HEY, WATCH IT!
THERE IS NO WAY I AM GOING TO LIVE OUT MY LIFE WITH A BUNCH OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE ZERO IMAGINATION. GOT IT?

IT'S MY LIFE, MY WAY. JUST LEAVE ME ALONE.
NOBODY GETS TO DO IT JUST THEIR WAY. YOU'RE STILL A KID. AND DON'T POINT.
YOU'VE GOT ONE WOLF AND ONE BEAR. AT LEAST I KNOW THE RULES. DIDN'T MY MOTHERS TELL YOU SEVEN HELPERS? YOU'RE IN BIG TROUBLE, LADY.
THERE WAS ALSO A LEMMING AND DON'T FORGET ABOUT A MILLION RABBITS.
THOSE RABBITS ARE TOTALLY LIKE CORN...OR WATER. NON-COUNT NOUNS... SO THAT'S ONLY ONE. YOU ARE OUT OF--
LUCK!
HEY!
THUNK
SSSSSSS

YOU LITTLE BRAT.
SORRY.
YOU WILL BE.
KA POW
HUH. I GUESS I WAS WRONG. SOMETIMES YOU *DO* GET TO DO IT JUST YOUR WAY. BOY, THAT FEELS GOOD.
HONEY BUNNY?
PICK HER UP, PETE, BEFORE SHE GETS FROSTBITE. AS SOON AS I GET THE SPARE TIRE ON, WE'RE LEAVING.

IT WON'T WORK. IT WON'T WORK. THIS IS NOT DRIVING SMART!
A LITTLE HIGHER, PLEASE.
GRRRRAH
NOT SMART!
THE ONLY NOT SMART THING THAT I CAN SEE IS THE WAY YOU CHOSE TO KEEP YOUR COCKLES WARM ABOUT FIFTEEN YEARS AGO.
OW!
IF YOU WEREN'T SO BULKED UP, WE WOULD HAVE HAD ROOM FOR A FULL-SIZE SPARE AND A NICE PICNIC BASKET. SO KEEP QUIET OR I'LL MAKE YOU WEAR THE HUBCAP. PERMANENTLY.
YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE THINGS LIKE THIS.
I'M NOT. I'M LEAVING YOU LIKE THIS.
BUT SHE TAKES CARE OF EVERYTHING AROUND HERE! I REALLY NEED HER.
PETE. SHE NEEDS HER FAMILY. OR HER FAMILY NEEDS HER. IT'S HARD TO TELL.
WATCH HER HEAD. AND WATCH YOUR WHINING, TOO.
I CAN BE HER FAMILY.
GOOD GRAVY, PETE. YOU TWO ARE THE POSTER CHILDREN FOR PREMARITAL COUNSELING!
LISTEN. DON'T FEEL TOO BAD. YOU GOT ANY OF THOSE ROCKET TREES LEFT?
YEAH, SURE.

THAT OUGHT TO HOLD IT. EVERYBODY CROSS THEIR FINGERS. PETE, TIME TO SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR GIRLFRIEND.
LET'S GO!
I'M STAYING WITH HER.
IT'S YOUR FUNERAL, HAIRY PANTS. I'M SURE THE FAMILY'S GOING TO LOVE YOU.
LIGHT IT!
fzstFZZ

WHUMMPFF
SKREEECH
ROARRRRR
OH GOD... I THINK WE'RE HEAVY.

NUTS!
RAWWWRR!
AUGGGGH!
KSHUNNNNK
It's a **flying finish** and Hellcat and the gang are going **to the wall!!** Get ready for the kind of dazzling bewitchery that's guaranteed to really wreck a girl's plans. There's **Hellcat to pay** and everybody's favorite **femme** makes with the **fatale.** The wolves are at the door but Hellcat's doing all the knocking. If you're interested in "Sure-shot Sal, Public Health Nurse" **don't read** issue five!

HELLPCAT

Remember that time Steve McQueen tied a rocket powered tree to the top of his Charger and tried to jump a 200 foot chasm? No? That's because it was ME! Don't feel bad, Steve. Even dead, you still parallel park better than I do.

Dear Ms Walker:

I have been a fan of you since your return to the land of the living, all those years ago in the now-classic Thunderbolts Annual 2000 (followed by the great Avengers Annual 2000) and I am absolutely thrilled with this new series. I just LOVE the art and marvel each month at the great story you have found yourself trapped in this time. Is there any chance for your book to be an ongoing book instead of just a limited series? It would certainly be terrific if this book would last forever instead of just for five issues. Since it seems you adore to answer numbered questions here are a few for your delight.

1) Were you ever romantically involved with Kyle Richmond aka Nighthawk?

2) Why weren't you in the latest Defenders iteration? You're certainly the quintessential Defender.

3) What did you prefer? To be an Avenger or to be a Defender?

4) Where do you buy your shoes? They look great.

5) Will you ever wear the blue costume again?

That's all for now and until Jubilee attempts to take the mantle of Hellcat make mine Marvel!!

Valeria Kementari

Dear Valeria,

Gosh, thanks for the compliments but I wouldn't be all broken up if you stopped using phrases like 'all those years ago'. But! From your keyboard to Joe Quesada's ears! And it won't go in one side and out the other. I've looked... there's a lot of stuff stuck in there! Anyway, in answer to your charming queries:

1. Honey, if I had a dollar for every guy who told me he was Nighthawk... I swear.

2. I couldn't make it. I think I had a thing or I might have been practicing spelling 'quintessential'.

3. I enjoy Avenging and Defending in equal proportions. Like cake and pie!

4. Sweetheart, I don't buy my shoes (see question 1).

5. It was so cute, right? But you know what they say: a change is as good as a rest... or a coma.

And if I actually had a mantle it would have fur trim and maybe some Swarovski crystal and a custom monogrammed lining. And anybody who tried to take it would get a kick in the neck. Jubilee can be first!

Dear Hellpcat,

I'm currently unemployed and desperately seeking a career that doesn't involve asking "Would you like fries with that?" a bajillion times a day. In fact, I'd rather not associate with the unwashed masses at all. Can you recommend a line of work for me? (Preferably not in Alaska.)

Fry-ghtened Freeloader

Dear Fry-ghtened Freeloader,

As evidenced by the book you're holding in your hands this very moment, I don't even have a parachute of my own, let alone know what color yours is. That said, maybe you should kill two birds with one stone and make a career of washing those unwashed masses. You know, something involving loofas. Except that would be kind of wrong because a loofa is a sponge which is a living creature which doesn't deserve to die just so you can get your back scrubbed! And there is nothing wrong with Alaska! I work in Alaska and it suits me fine! I think you're just too picky and doomed to be dissatisfied.

Dear Patsy,

Who has the dreamier moustache: Doctor Strange, or Tony Stark?

Your new BFF,
Todd McT.
oxoxo

Dear Todd McT,

Really? Is that even a question? Both Strange and Stark are pretty dreamy. In fact, I had a dream once where Tony and Stevie and I were... uh, anyways. Look, it's time to set the record straight. The hero with the thickest, most luxurious moustache is She-Hulk. (Someone had to say it! Honestly!) Also, Todd, if you're seriously going to be my BFF, you need to go out and buy us matching Tiffany lockets or something and then prove you mean it by reenacting every Riverdance show ever produced, for my personal viewing pleasure. I need to know you mean it. Hellstrom could get through it in under 3 hours. FYI.

Oh, just to make sure that I'm perfectly clear, that was NOT an invitation for you readers to send me pictures of your Michael Flatley tattoos. (I'm talking to you, Dan Buckley!) But do e-mail us at OfficeX@Marvel.com and send us your thoughts on the book and also those questions that have been gnawing at your souls. And your soles. (Mmm, shoes.) See you soon!

NEXT ISSUE:

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'Tis the Season...

Happy holidays to everyone, and our best wishes to all the brave men and women serving in the armed forces.

Happy Holidays
from

TSKY

PEACE
+
LOVE

HAPPY
HOLIDAYS!
- GREEN
GIANT -

STEAM

SNI

bTx
<GONG>

Happy Holidays
to our friends over seas!
Archangel

Kingpin
(indie Scanner)
SW

CHAMP

WHITEWOLF
MERRY
X-MAS

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE
data 9724

Neverwhere
-DCP

Love & Hugs,
Dizzy

HAPPY
HOLIDAYS
METRON (DCP)

In The Hot Desert,
In The Cold mountain passes,
You Go to Defend us.
Though you are far from Home,
You are Never far from our Thoughts.
Thank you, always.
"waahreaam"

GCPDGUY
-ocd-

TWOBYFOUR

Happy Holidays,

Darwin

TAFT

GAMBIT

King Kaily

MERRY X-MAS + New year
Blasty

Scrooge

Mouse 5/50 -DCP
Season greetings to all friends, family & fellow scanners
-cheers

OROBOROS

Happy Holidays!
Kryptonia - DCP

Best wishes,
Icarus-DCP

Hourman-DCP

ojo

ChanceHT

Lucy Butler

José Chung

DIRTMOUND

Scarpranos-DCP

Knitter-DCP

Memo/DCP wishes everybody a good and healty 2009! Have lots of reading fun!

BiZ

Peter Watts

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
AND
MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM 日本

れい

Frank Black

MERRY CHRISTMAS
& Keep on Scannin'

PEACE ON EARTH &
GOODWILL TO ALL

bones666

HAPPY XMAS!!

KONKY

Slinky*

Malibu Guy

Spellbound

ULTRA Boy-DCP

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Buon Natale e' Felice Anno Nuovo!

Coolidge

Read more Star Wars
In The next year
Darth Scanner

Best Christmas wishes!
– DarkMark

TI
SE

Happy
Christmas
y'all
Minuteman – Rosie

FAAAABLES!

HAVE A MERRY

RACER X MAS!

SCANS THAT ARE ALL THE RAGE!

DCP digital comics preservation